Listing and Amendment of the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising steps of:

enabling a user to select a recording title stored on a digital storage medium in a first program chain for password protection, said first program chain being a single program chain according to DVD specifications;

receiving a password from said user for said selected recording title;

storing said password on said digital storage medium in said first program chain with said selected recording title; and

~~storing all menu data representing a password menu screen for said selected recording title on said digital storage medium in a second program chain different from said first program chain, said second program chain being a single program chain according to DVD specifications~~

requiring said password to be input before playing back said selected recording title.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said digital storage medium is a DVD.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising a step of storing at least one command on said digital storage medium in said first program chain.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein said at least one command causes ~~said~~ a password menu screen to be displayed if playback of said selected recording title is attempted.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[1]] 4, wherein ~~said first program chain is also a single program chain according to DVD specifications~~ data representing

2

said password menu screen is stored on said digital storage medium in a second program chain different from said first program chain, said second program chain being a single program chain according to DVD specifications.

6.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein said at least one command includes a PRE command according to DVD specifications.

7.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising a step of ~~requiring said password to be input before playing back said selected recording title~~ storing data representing a password menu for said selected recording title on said digital storage medium in a second program chain different from said first program chain, said second program chain being a single program chain according to DVD specifications.

8.   (Currently Amended) A digital recording and playback apparatus, comprising:

interface means for interfacing said digital recording and playback apparatus with a digital storage medium; and

control means for enabling a user to select a recording title stored on said digital storage medium in a first program chain for password protection, said first program chain being a single program chain according to DVD specifications, said control means receiving a password from said user for said selected recording title, causing said password to be stored on said digital storage medium in said first program chain with said selected recording title, and ~~causing all menu data representing a password menu screen for said selected recording title to be stored on said digital storage medium in a second program chain different from said first program chain, said second program chain being a single program chain according to DVD specifications~~ requiring said password to be input before playing back said selected recording title.

9.   (Previously Presented) The digital recording and playback apparatus of claim 8, wherein said digital storage medium is a DVD.

10. (Previously Presented) The digital recording and playback apparatus of claim 8, wherein said control means further causes at least one command to be stored on said digital storage medium in said first program chain.

11. (Currently Amended) The digital recording and playback apparatus of claim 10, wherein said at least one command causes ~~said~~ a password menu ~~screen~~ to be displayed if playback of said selected recording title is attempted.

12. (Currently Amended) The digital recording and playback apparatus of claim 8, wherein ~~said first program chain is also a single program chain according to DVD specifications~~ data representing a password menu for said selected recording title is stored on said digital storage medium in a second program chain different from said first program chain, said second program chain being a single program chain according to DVD specifications.

13. (Previously Presented) The digital recording and playback apparatus of claim 10, wherein said at least one command includes a plurality of commands.

14. (Previously Presented) The digital recording and playback apparatus of claim 13, wherein said plurality of commands comprise PRE commands according to DVD specifications.

15. (Currently Amended) The digital recording and playback apparatus of claim 11, wherein said control means ~~further requires said password to be input responsive to said password menu screen before playing back said selected recording title~~ causes data representing said password menu to be stored on said digital storage medium in a second program chain different from said first program chain, said second program chain being a single program chain according to DVD specifications.

16. (Currently Amended) A digital storage medium, comprising:
a plurality of data fields; and

wherein said data fields comprise a first program chain for storing a selected recording title and a user-assigned password for said selected recording title, ~~and a second program chain different from said first program chain for storing all menu data representing a password menu screen for said selected recording title, said second~~ <u>said first</u> program chain being a single program chain according to DVD specifications.

17. (Previously Presented) The digital storage medium of claim 16, wherein said digital storage medium is a DVD.

18. (Previously Presented) The digital storage medium of claim 16, wherein said first program chain also stores at least one command.

19. (Currently Amended) The digital storage medium of claim 16, wherein said ~~first program chain is also a single program chain according to DVD specifications~~ <u>data fields further comprise a second program chain for storing data representing a password menu for said selected recording title, said second program chain being a single program chain according to DVD specifications</u>.

20. (Currently Amended) The digital storage medium of claim 18, wherein said at least one command causes ~~said~~ <u>a</u> password menu screen to be displayed if playback of said selected recording title is attempted, and input of said user-assigned password is required before playing back said selected recording title.